

The Senate Natural Resources and the Environment Committee offered the following substitute to SB 299:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Code Section 12-2-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to promulgation of minimum standards and procedures for protection of natural resources, environment, and vital areas of the state, so as to provide flexibility for establishing watershed protection standards; to require submission of watershed protection plans by local governments; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Code Section 12-2-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to promulgation of minimum standards and procedures for protection of natural resources, environment, and vital areas of the state, is amended by revising subsection (d) as follows:

"(d) The minimum standards and procedures for watershed protection referred to in subsection (b) of this Code section ~~shall specifically~~ may include, but shall not be limited to, buffer areas along streams and reservoirs, land development densities, and land use activities. Local governments shall submit a watershed protection plan which shall include standards and procedures for watershed protection in accordance with rules promulgated by the department pursuant to this Code section. The department may adopt differing minimum standards and procedures of watershed protection based on the size of the watershed, the size or flow volume of the stream or reservoir, and whether or not the actual use of the municipal water supply is existing or proposed."

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.